
【Liu Zhewei Column】 Should legislation to stop cyberbullying?



Liu Zhewei

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If cyber bullying goes beyond the boundaries, whether it is legal or moral, it is obviously a mistake. (Photo: Europe News Agency)

I am opposed to cyberbullying, but can it be easily curbed by enacting laws? I do not think so.

Let us divide netizens into two categories. The first category is ordinary people, and the second category is public figures. I define them as Internet celebrities, public figures, or anyone who has a relationship with the public (including the scene or Internet interviews, virtual online sellers, etc.).

This is because, although I am not interested in becoming an internet celebrity or a public figure, when I attend a public talk show, I am regarded as a public figure, or more accurately a figure exposed to the public, which means accepting public censorship. Whether it is positive or negative reviews, the same is true for virtual online sellers.

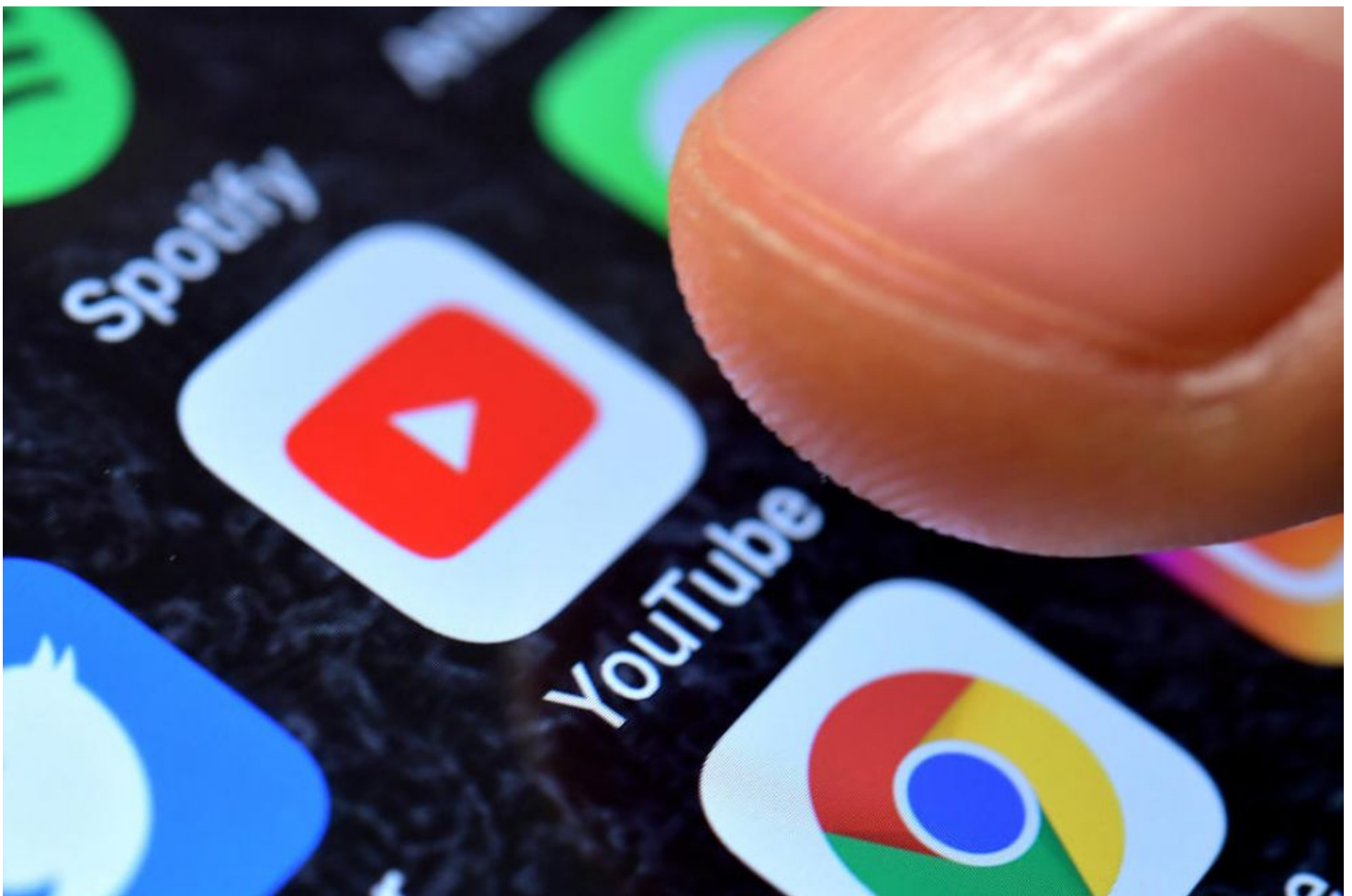
There is a Cantonese saying: "Eat salty fish is worth thirsty." Even if you don't want to be too high-profile, it is purely to share opinions. In the case of publicity, it is inevitable that you will not be criticized.

For the first category, not many people will fall into cyberbullying because they have less motivation to be targeted and attacked by netizens. Even if there is a dispute between netizens, they will stop there unless they use foul language or comments are too extreme. Otherwise, this category is relatively less likely to be a victim of cyberbullying, and I don't want to say that it will definitely not happen.

People who are more likely to be victims of cyberbullying are the second type of people, which I describe as public figures, including the examples I mentioned at the beginning of the article. When you are a public figure and exposed to the public, you basically have to bear the risk of cyber bullying, which is also a professional risk.

Although I do not agree with cyberbullying, I cannot deny that it is happening. If one cannot bear it, one should consider leaving the public. Although I am not saying to bow to evil forces, public figures must consider the potential risks, just like when you become a policeman and want to detain prisoners, you face the threat of the underworld.

If you are a teacher, you may face complaints from parents if you blame students. You are a doctor and there is a risk of contracting the virus, so this is the so-called occupational risk, and the only thing you can do is protect yourself.



某些YouTube提供其他国家/地区的例子，但不要忘记，这些国家是遵循民主的国家，民主程度比马来西亚来得高，与马来西亚相比，它们拥有更高透明度和责任感。（图：欧新社）

倘若网络霸凌超出界限，无论是在法律上还是道德上，显然就是一种错误。

那么，介于两者之间，在任何法律下都不足以构成犯罪，但同时对受害者产生影响呢？反网络霸凌法也许可以填补这一缺陷。虽然表面上听起来不错，唯其中含义太大。

因此，我的结论就是，虽然我不认同网络霸凌，但新法律成为滥用几率更高，在网络世界中以公众人物的身份出现是有风险，在决定公开前，个人应该评估他/她是否有能力承担风险。

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The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying two news articles side-by-side. The browser's title bar at the top shows "The Malaysian Insight" and a back button. The address bar contains a URL starting with "http://www.malaysianinsight.com". The left article is by Khoo Gek San, titled "Perikatan leaders persuaded Muhyiddin not to resign, sources say". The right article is by Noor Azam Shairi, titled "2 Umno MPs to get cabinet posts, say sources". The browser interface includes a title bar, address bar, and navigation buttons at the bottom. The CrowdyNews logo is visible in the bottom left corner, and navigation arrows are in the bottom right corner.